

Ctenophora flaveolata (F.) (Diptera: Tipulidae) new to Gloucestershire.—A single female of the rare 'old forest' crane-fly *Ctenophora flaveolata* was found in Cirencester Park Woods, Gloucestershire on 6.v.1990. It was seen flying through an area of the mature beech woodland of Mosses Copse (SO 999022) and was captured when it landed on a trackside.

This species is listed as category 1 (endangered) in the British insects Red Data Book (A. E. Stubbs, in Shirt, 1987), which picks out the New Forest as possibly the best area. This recalls the discovery in the same woodland complex of the fungus gnat *Neoempheria lineola* (Meig.) in 1986—another New Forest speciality (Chandler, 1987)!—Keith N. A. Alexander, 22 Cecily Hill, Cirencester, Glos GL7 2EF.

REFERENCES

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 Shirt, D. B. (ed.) 1987. *British red data books: 2. Insects*. Nature Conservancy Council, Peterborough.

Hypena obsitalis (Hübner.) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) temporarily established in Devonshire.—Whilst on holiday at Torbay, I found a small colony of *H. obsitalis* (the Bloxworth snout) on a cliff path on the evenings of 2 and 3.viii.1990. On the first evening eight specimens were seen, which nearly equalled the total of nine recorded singletons for this rare immigrant to Great Britain and Ireland (Heath & Emmet, 1984; Skinner, 1984). Four specimens of this variable species were kept and the others released. The following night seven specimens were boxed and then released. With one specimen having a torn left forewing not turning up the second night, the total number for the two nights was twelve. With the past history of only singletons occurring, it seems that with such a number in one locality, the species could be temporarily established on the south Devonshire coast. The exact locality is not being revealed. It is hoped that the species can become resident, as has happened in the Channel Islands.

The stretch of cliff path, where the specimens were found, was 140 metres in length, though one male was found 50 metres further along the path. Flight time was from dusk until midnight, with a peak at 11 pm. Two specimens were jarred out of sloe bushes before dusk. The moths were startled and attracted by torch light but then flew off. Two were attracted up from the cliff face by the light shining down several metres. The moths all flew low, under a metre in height above the ground, except for two which flew out from higher *Clematis vitalba* L. blossom. The flight was slow with fore legs well extended in front. One was seen flying low over *Parietaria judaica*, one of its continental foodplants.—A. H. Dobson, 282 Britten Road, Basingstoke, Hants. RG22 4HR.

REFERENCES

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 Skinner, B. 1984. *Colour identification guide to moths of the British Isles*. London: Viking.